IQRS User Review Panel (URP) Meeting
October 19, 2004
Fairfax, VA

Minutes and User Recommendations

The purpose of this document is to provide a synopsis of the October 2004 IQRS URP Meeting, and to record the recommendations provided by the IQRS users. These recommendations will be reviewed by the Data Banks for possible incorporation.

The meeting convened at approximately 9:35 a.m. on October 19, 2004. Introductory remarks and administrative items were presented by NPDB-HIPDB Project Manager, Mr. Frank Shartle. In addition, Mr. Frank Shartle provided an update on IQRS URP recommendations from the previous (April 21, 2004) IQRS URP Meeting.

Mr. Aaron Hawes, NPDB-HIPDB Software Manager, discussed system improvements implemented over the past year, such as subject database duplicate warnings, bundled multi-name query responses, and the ability for entities to obtain historical query and report summaries. Next, Mr. Darryl Gray, Contracting Officer Technical Representative and Deputy Chief, Practitioner Data Banks Branch, opened the floor to discussion and feedback from the users. Various policy questions were discussed and the users made recommendations (see the URP Recommendations section below).

The meeting reconvened, after a lunch break, with Mr. Aaron Hawes, discussing planned future system improvements and considerations for 2005 and beyond. These additional enhancements will include subject database import improvements, reducing the number of pages in a query response, enhanced IQRS Security, and the upcoming Querying and Reporting XML Service (QRXS). More detailed information about software releases will appear in future issues of the Data Bank newsletter, *NPDB-HIPDB Data Bank News*. Next, Mr. Robert Bozzi, Senior analyst with SRA International, Inc., provided a high level overview of a potential Pro-Active Disclosure Service (PDS). This service is being explored to determine the feasibility and interest level of Data Bank users. PDS has the potential to improve entities' health care quality by substantially reducing the time between the Data Banks' receipt of a subject report and the interested entities' notification of that report. If implemented, PDS will notify registered entities automatically when the Data Banks receive new reports on practitioners that are enrolled in the PDS. If approved, this service may be available to users sometime during the 2006 timeframe.

Next, Ms. Sandy Rosenblatt, NPDB-HIPDB Information Systems Security Officer, discussed current IQRS Security and planned password policy security enhancements. She was followed by Ms. Cynthia Grubbs, Senior Policy Analyst, SRA International, Inc., who discussed the implementation of Section 1921 into the NPDB.

URP Recommendations

1. **Historical Queries by SSN or License Number:** Several IQRS users recommended that the Data Banks add Social Security Number (SSN), License Number, and User ID to the available historical query and report search criteria.

2. **Query Responses Available Longer Than 30 Days:** IQRS users would like query and report responses to be available for longer than the 30-day limit currently imposed by the system. Users would prefer having a time period of 45 to 60 days for which to view their responses.

3. **Increase Historical Report Timeframe:** Users commented that they occasionally need to view reports that extend back 15 years. These users would like to obtain historical reports submitted by their entity for longer time period than currently supported by the system (four-year time limit).

4. **Enable On-Line Notification of Correction Reports:** Some users would like to receive notifications of report changes on-line through the IQRS or via ITP (instead of receiving notice via U.S. mail).

5. **Expand Code List for Adverse Action Reports:** Several users would like to see an expanded list of codes for Adverse Action Reports. The Data Banks will look at medical examiners codes (for criminal convictions) and look into expanding the Adverse Action Report code list.

6. **Different Levels of IQRS User Access:** Entity administrators are interested in assigning different levels of IQRS access to entity users, such as "view only" or "view and update" IQRS access.

7. **Query Response Ordering:** Several users would like to be able to sort and filter the query responses on the Query Status screen lists to more easily access their query responses. They would like to be able to sort by submission data and status. Currently the responses are sorted by submitter name.

Questions/Comments

1. **Users Must Input One Dollar ($1.00) in a Particular Adverse Action Report Field:** One IQRS user mentioned that they had to enter a dollar amount in the "Total Amount of Monetary Penalty, Assessment and/or Restitution or Fine" field even when a payment was <u>not</u> made in order for the system to accept the report.

   The Data Banks have researched this issue and determined that the field is not mandatory. When there is no penalty, assessment and/or restitution or fine, this field should be left blank as the system will not accept a $0.00 dollar amount. The report form and help file will be updated to make this clarification.

2. **A Particular Monetary Field Does Not Appear for ITP MMPR Reports 2004:**
   One IQRS user mentioned that they recently discovered that the monetary amount is being displayed in their ITP MMPR reports for the year 2004. This is most likely an issue within the user's software. The MMPR format was modified in February 2004 and other ITP users have not reported experiencing this problem. The Data Banks are currently researching this issue.

The Meeting ended with Mr. Shartle summarizing the day's events and answering remaining questions about the meeting. The IQRS URP meeting ended at 3:30 p.m.